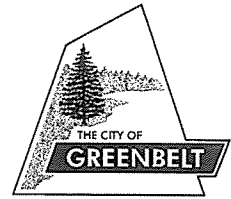


2016 State Legislative Summary

May 12, 2016



INTRODUCTION

The 2016 Session of the Maryland General Assembly has now ended. Below is my annual summary of those legislative items which the City Council expressed an interest in before and during the 2016 Session.

CITY LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

Greenbelt's 2016 Legislative Program was presented to our State delegation at the Annual Legislative Dinner on December 15, 2015. The Mid-Term Dinner was held on March 2, 2016 in Annapolis.

There were three Top legislative priorities as follows.

- Support FBI Headquarters in Greenbelt
- Greenbelt Road Streetscape Improvements
- M-NCPPC Tax Fairness

The Program contained three Other priorities. These were:

- Protect Municipal Funding Sources
- Children Living in Greenbelt Station should attend Greenbelt Schools
- Oppose Kenilworth Avenue Extension

Greenbelt's City and County representatives continue to support the FBI Headquarters in Greenbelt.

Greenbelt Road Streetscape Improvements was listed in the County's letter to the State as the second priority under "Project Planning Start" section.

Legislation to address the M-NCPPC Tax Fairness issue (HB 1123) was successfully adopted. Residents of Greenbelt Station will now pay the same M-NCPPC tax rate as the rest of the City!

The City continued to stress that Children Living in Greenbelt Station should attend Greenbelt Schools at both dinner meetings.

All the municipal funding items the City receives from the State and County were protected.

Opposition to the Kenilworth Avenue Extension was reiterated to the City's representatives.

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY

Staff reviewed and evaluated many bills, as well as information from MML, PGCMA, MWCOG, and other sources. During the 2016 Session, the Council took official positions (support or oppose) on 15 bills. Since 2002, the Council has taken positions on as few as 11, and as many as 19 bills.

The City supported 13 bills. Five of these bills passed including:

- Amending the M-NCPPC Metropolitan District boundaries to exclude Greenbelt Station.
- The Pollinator Protection Act.
- Legislation to help create clean energy jobs in Maryland.
- Reducing statewide greenhouse gas emissions by 40% by 2030.
- Creation of Extraordinary Development District to help finance infrastructure improvements for Federal law enforcement agencies.

The City opposed 2 bills - Local legislation that removed permit review authority from M-NCPPC and a statewide speed camera repeal bill. Both failed.

MARYLAND MUNICIPAL LEAGUE (MML) LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

MML advocated for additional Highway User Revenue funding and \$19 million was included in the Governor's Supplemental Budget. Legislation supported by MML that would have mandated HUR funding failed.

The League worked to protect Program Open Space Funding. Legislation which would have set up a Program Open Space Trust fund was not successful.

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION (PGCMA) LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

City Council attended the PGCMA Legislative Dinner on December 8, 2015.

Respectfully Submitted by David E. Moran, Assistant City Manager